

**State Medevac Committee Meeting  
Richmond Marriott West  
Richmond, Virginia  
April 26, 2007  
10:00 a.m.**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>	<b>Staff:</b>	<b>Others:</b>
<b>Randy Abernathy Christopher Cannon Scott Kunkel Robin Davis Paul Davenport Brett Henyon Jay Cullen Don Childs John Ratliff John Bianco Christopher Perkins Jeff Hamilton</b>		<b>Paul Sharpe Jodi Kuhn Christy Saldana</b>	<b>Brian Soluda Brett Dodd Terry Austin Maggie McCauley Michael Ortega Nick Saunders Darryl Lazar Peter Martin Charles Coffelt Erik Rohde Melody Meehan Timothy Hodee Mike Watkins Harinder Dhindsa Karen Hamilton</b>

<b>Topic/Subject</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person</b>
<b>Call to order:</b>	Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:02 a.m.	
<b>Introductions:</b>	Attendees introduced themselves around the room. (See roster above.)	
<b>Approval of Minutes from January 25, 2007 meeting:</b>	No motion was made to accept the previous minutes.	
<b>Chair Report:</b>	Mr. Abernathy commented on the VT incident and how the VT Rescue Squad did a “stellar job”. He talked to the Director of OEMS and the OEMS is giving the VT Rescue Squad a grant to replenish/restock their supplies. OEMS has had two Town Hall Meetings. One in Fredericksburg, where some concern about what was going on in the air medical industry, particularly in the NOVA area. A provider had some concerns about the “helicopter shopping”. It seems that there are ground provider concerns, which relates to an oversight of the industry. The next Town Hall Meeting is in July and is being held in the Peninsula area. Everyone is encouraged to attend one of these meetings.	<b>Public Town Forums Peninsulas - July 24 Central Shenandoah - October 16</b>
<b>OEMS Report:</b>	Paul Sharpe stated that the National Association of State EMS Officials published an article called <i>Air Medical Services Future Development as an Integrated Component of Emergency Medical Services</i>	<b>If anyone has any articles to be included in the EMS Bulletin,</b>

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	<p>Systems. The website is <a href="http://www.nasemso.org">www.nasemso.org</a>. The Medevac regulations were pulled from the board of health meeting. OEMS was not given a reason why. The EMS Bulletin, which is published quarterly by the OEMS, was distributed to everyone present. The first copy of the Trends document was distributed which included data from Trauma, Poison Control, and PPCR. This year the Trends document will include Air Medical information. About 3,000 copies were distributed across the state earlier this year. Concern was voiced about how the data is reported and how it will be used or misused.</p>	<p><b>forward them to Paul.</b></p> <p><b>Air Medical will be included in the Trends document this year. If you have anything that you would like to include, please send emails to Paul or Jodi.</b></p>
<p><b>Best Practices:</b></p>	<p>The Chair stated that the Medevac committee needs to decide where we want to go as a group. Two years ago we established the Best Practice Deliverables guidelines. The Chair has contacted Eric Cantor's office in Washington, DC. This committee has been charged with making recommendations to the State EMS Advisory Board to ensure that the practices and day to day operations of air medical services meet the criteria that we all want to see happen. Concern was expressed by the system that Virginia is being inundated with Medevac service providers in some areas of the state more than other areas and this issue is also being raised on the national level. Our responsibility is to ensure that as an industry we operate as efficiently and effectively as possible.</p> <p>Several members of the committee raise the issue that we don't have a good handle on what the true issues are within the Commonwealth. A lot of the issues being brought up in the GAO and other documents that are being produced are industry or national issues. How are they applicable to the situations in this state? OEMS was asked to produce a list of what OEMS believes are the "problems" with the air medical system that are specific to Virginia.</p> <p>OEMS discussed that it is not approaching the Best Practices project as fixing anything that is broken. Instead, it is OEMS' intention to acknowledge the topics that are being discussed on the national level, along with issues that were discussed during the development of the Medevac regulations that could not be addressed through regulation, and set benchmarks to begin to evaluate our system against. OEMS agrees there is poor data available to support the issues being raised nationally and locally. Most of the significant federal documents, like the GAO Report, acknowledge the lack of data that exists to support or defend the issues.</p> <p>There was discussion on developing the Best Practice process to a more formal process, similar to the current trauma triage process. This will be further explored.</p> <p>Maggie McCauley &amp; Chris Cannon agreed to Chair and Co-Chair the Best Practices Committee. They will establish an electronic meeting within the next 30 days. A teleconference will be set up with each representing agency.</p>	<p><b>Need to establish data collection mechanism.</b></p> <p><b>Formal process needs to be put in place.</b></p> <p><b>Paul will send out a new point of contact list of voting agencies.</b></p>

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		An electronic meeting will be set up within the next 30 days by Chair/Co-Chair.
<b>Agency Reports/Program Announcements:</b>	<p><b>Brett Henryon, PHI Air Medical</b> reported that they will receive a new EC 135 aircraft with NVG. Also, they have a new Program Director, John Collier from Arizona. Reaccreditation June 4-6.</p> <p><b>Don Childs, Med-Flight III</b>, Lou Sales is no longer with us.</p> <p><b>Jay Cullen, Med-Flight I</b>, Announced the untimely death of Capt. Joe Newsome from Chesterfield Fire and EMS. Capt. Newsome was currently in charge of EMS operations.</p> <p><b>John Ratliff, VSP Med-Flight II</b>, there is construction at Bristol Regional Medical Center, the old helipad is gone and a new helipad is in operation, cranes remain on location. The hospital requests a minimum of a 20 minute notification.</p> <p><b>Scott Kunkel, UVA Pegasus</b>, New Director - They are bringing all air and ground transport service departments together under one division.</p> <p><b>Brian Soluda, LifeEvac</b> – No news.</p> <p><b>Brett Dodd, MedSTAR</b> - We passed our CAMTS accreditation again. Co-hosting a conference with NOVA/Fairfax at the end of the summer.</p> <p><b>Robin Davis, Fairfax Co. Police</b> – 24 year old firefighter killed in the line of duty in Prince William County. New fire chief in Fairfax County. New flight medic, PFC John Debonis to begin on May 26. Sgt. Mark Smith, new chief paramedic to begin on May 26.</p> <p><b>Paul Davenport, Carilion LifeGuard</b> – Introduced Charlie Coffelt, new operations manager for their communications ctr., Carl Kline has been promoted to a position within the hospital and his position is now open. We have been approved for 2 helipads. Will send out approach and departure info. CAMTS reaccredited. Passed agency re-inspection. LifeGuard was unable to fly to the VT incident, but did send ambulances. Paul recognized Robin Davis' contributions to the committee and thanked him for all his work on the committee. We will miss you.</p> <p><b>Karen Hamilton, Aeromedical Transport Specialist</b>, have been working closer with embassies on issues related to international flights.</p>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>The Chair asked the committee if they had any knowledge of facilities starting to charge landing fees? No one has heard of this occurring.</p> <p>AirTrek no longer in Virginia. They have returned to their operation in Florida since the loss of an aircraft in Pennsylvania.</p>	
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	None	
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	None	
<b>Adjournment</b>	Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.	